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Allen W. Dulles

ALLEN W. DULLES, who died yesterday at the age of 75, seemed destined for a career as a diplomat. He had already developed a keen interest in foreign affairs when, at the tender age of eight, he wrote and published a short book about the Boer War.

But it was his brother, JOHN FOSTER DULLES, who made his mark in the diplomatic field—as the third member of the family to serve as Secretary of State.

After graduating from Princeton (Phi Beta Kappa) and teaching English for a year at a missionary school in India, ALLEN DULLES began a career with the State Department that lasted for a decade. But in 1926 he took off his striped pants to become a lawyer with the prestigious New York firm of Sullivan and Cromwell, where his brother was a partner.

It wasn't until he was nearly 50 that DULLES really found his niche. After Pearl Harbor, he was asked to set up a European espionage headquarters in Switzerland for the Office of Strategic Services, and thus began his eminent career as America's "master-spy."

He spent much of the war breaking German codes, filching secrets from under Hitler's nose and meeting clandestinely with German officers who were plotting an assassination of the Fuehrer. He tried desperately to

arrange a compromise surrender which would have rid Germany of the Nazis and ended the war sooner, but PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT was adamant in insisting on "unconditional surrender." Nevertheless, DULLES was able to engineer the early surrender of the German army in Italy, which saved many lives.

Following the war he returned briefly to his law practice, but soon after the Central Intelligence Agency was created—largely along the lines which he himself had recommended—DULLES became its deputy director.

During his long tenure as its boss from 1953 to 1961, the CIA was frequently embroiled in controversy. The role it played in engineering palace coups and revolutions—whether successful, as in Iran and Guatemala, or disastrous, as at the Bay of Pigs—won both applause and condemnation.

Though his role as a super-sleuth gave him a rather sinister image, DULLES once boasted that "I've never been shot at and I don't know that anyone ever tried to kidnap me." Perhaps that's partly because he never fit the cloak-and-dagger stereotype. With his twinkling eyes, his bristling mustache and his ever-present pipe, he looked for all the world like a tweedy, slightly rumpled college professor.